

Message Text

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ACTION IO-14

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 ACDA-12 SOE-02 AF-10 ARA-10 CIAE-00
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P 271759Z MAY 78

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AMEMBASSY MONROVIA PRIORITY
USMISSION USNATO PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY SANTIAGO PRIORITY
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E.O. 11651: N/A

TAGS: PARM, US, UNGA, IO

SUBJECT: SSOD: CONTINUATION OF GENERAL DEBATE ON
AFTERNOON OF MAY 25

1. SUMMARY. THE UNSSOD GENERAL DEBATE CONTINUED ON THE
AFTERNOON OF MAY 25 WITH SPEECHES BY HONDURAN VICE-
MINISTER OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS POLICARPO CALLEJAS, LIBERIAN
FOREIGN MINISTER C. CECIL DENNIS, JR., CHILEAN AMBASSADOR
TO THE UN SERGIO DIEZ, AND GABONESE SECRETARY OF STATE
FOR FOREIGN AFFAIRS JEAN-BAPTISTE NGOMO-OBIANG. END
SUMMARY.

2. UNSSOD GENERAL DEBATE CONTINUED ON THE AFTERNOON OF
MAY 25 WITH STATEMENT BY VICE-MINISTER OF FOREIGN
AFFAIRS POLICARPO CALLEJAS OF HONDURAS. CALLEJAS NOTED
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THAT IN THE PAST THREE DECADES UNITED NATIONS EFFORTS
TO STEM THE SCOURGE OF WAR HAD PROVED TO BE INADEQUATE.
HE SAID THAT THE UNBRIDLED ARMS RACE WAS DUE TO THE
PRIMACY OF NATIONAL POWER AND THAT THE FUNDAMENTAL CAUSES
OF THE ARMS RACE MUST BE ROOTED OUT BY RESTRUCTURING
INTERNATIONAL SOCIETY. HE NOTED THAT THE LEAGUE OF
NATIONS HAD PERISHED FOR LACK OF WILL ON THE PART OF ITS

MEMBERS. CALLEJAS SAID THAT PROGRESS TOWARDS DISARMAMENT WOULD RELEASE SUFFICIENT RESOURCES TO SOLVE THE HEALTH, FOOD AND HOUSING PROBLEMS OF THE ENTIRE WORLD. HE SAID THAT THE SPECIAL SESSION SHOULD DEVELOP A PROGRAM OF ACTION HAVING AS ITS GOAL A PLAN FOR GENERAL AND COMPLETE DISARMAMENT UNDER EFFECTIVE INTERNATIONAL CONTROL. HE NOTED THAT HIS GOVERNMENT WAS ESPECIALLY INTERESTED IN ESTABLISHING NUCLEAR-FREE ZONES AND ZONES OF PEACE. HE ALSO EXPRESSED OPPOSITION TO NUCLEAR PROLIFERATION. CALLEJAS SUPPORTED THE ESTABLISHMENT OF AN INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATION TO MONITOR THE IMPLEMENTATION OF INTERNATIONAL TREATIES AND TO DEVELOP GENERAL DISARMAMENT OBJECTIVES.

3. MINISTER OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS C. CECIL DENNIS, JR. OF LIBERIA NOTED THAT MAY 25 MARKED THE FIFTEENTH ANNIVERSARY OF THE FOUNDING OF THE ORGANIZATION OF AFRICAN UNITY (OAU). HE RENEWED THE APPEAL TO THE INTERNATIONAL COMMUNITY TO END ITS SUPPLY OF ARMS TO THE "RACIST REGIMES IN SOUTHERN AFRICA" AND ITS COLLABORATION IN NUCLEAR TECHNOLOGY. DENNIS SAID THAT THE FIRST STEP IN DISARMAMENT "SHOULD BE TO DISARM THE SKEPTICISM THAT LOOMS OVER THIS SESSION, TO DISARM PUBLIC OPINION OF THE PESSIMISTIC AND NEGATIVE ATTITUDE THAT THE ULTIMATE OBJECTIVE OF DISARMAMENT IS ILLUSORY." DENNIS NOTED THAT IF SOME OF THE VAST EXPENDITURES ON LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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ARMAMENTS COULD INSTEAD BE DIRECTED TOWARDS WAGING AN EFFECTIVE BATTLE AGAINST THE AGE-OLD ENEMIES OF MANKIND

--IGNORANCE, DISEASE AND POVERTY, THE DEVELOPING COUNTRIES WOULD BE MOST FORTUNATE. HE CALLED UPON THE ASSEMBLY TO ENDORSE PRESIDENT MOJSOV'S APPEAL THAT WHERE SUCCESS WAS ACHIEVED IN CHECKING THE SPIRAL OF MILITARY EXPENDITURES, A PORTION OF THOSE RESOURCES SHOULD BE ALLOCATED FOR INCREASED ASSISTANCE TO DEVELOPING COUNTRIES. DENNIS MAINTAINED THAT THE UN MUST BE THE MOST IMPORTANT FORUM FOR THE QUESTION OF DISARMAMENT. HE SAID THAT HE DID NOT DENY THE USEFULNESS OF OTHER TALKS AND FORUMS, AND WHILE REFERRING APPROVINGLY TO TALKS BETWEEN THE SUPERPOWERS, HE SAID THAT THE RESULTS OF THESE TALKS SO FAR WERE "PERIPHERAL, PARTIAL, AND COLLATERAL." HE MAINTAINED THAT UNDER UN AUSPICES THERE COULD BE SUSTAINED EFFORTS TOWARDS DISARMAMENT. DENNIS APPROVED OF SECRETARY-GENERAL WALDHEIM'S PROPOSAL FOR THE APPOINTMENT OF AN ADVISORY BOARD OF DISARMAMENT EXPERTS. FINALLY, HE BELIEVED THAT A WORLD DISARMAMENT CONFERENCE COULD BE INSTITUTIONALIZED AND SHOULD MEET EVERY 3 OR 4 YEARS IN ORDER TO MAINTAIN

MOMENTUM FOR CONCRETE EVEN IF GRADUAL RESULTS.

4. AMB TO THE UN SERGIO DIEZ OF CHILE DECLARED THAT EFFORTS TOWARD DISARMAMENT WERE "FOUNDERING IN STERILITY AND POWERLESSNESS." HE CALLED FOR SETTING AS A GOAL GENERAL AND COMPLETE DISARMAMENT UNDER "EFFECTIVE AND STRICT INTERNATIONAL CONTROLS" HE SUPPORTED SECRETARY-GENERAL WALDHEIM'S PROPOSAL FOR AN ADVISORY GROUP OF DISARMAMENT EXPERTS, AND HE ALSO SUPPORTED WALDHEIM'S SUGGESTION THAT MEMBER STATES DEVOTE ONE ONE-THOUSANDTH OF THE SUM OF THEIR ARMS EXPENDITURES TO PROMULGATING

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INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 ACDA-12 SOE-02 AF-10 ARA-10 CIAE-00
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INFORMATION ON DISARMAMENT. DIEZ NOTED THE "EXPANSIONIST ZEAL OF SOME STATES" AND SAID THAT "SO-CALLED DETENTE IS BEING PARTIALLY APPLIED TO CERTAIN AREAS OF THE WORLD." HE ASSERTED THAT DETENTE "SHOULD BE UNIVERSAL." HE SAID THAT THERE IS A NEED FOR A UNIVERSAL FORUM WITH POWER TO ENACT COMPREHENSIVE DISARMAMENT MEASURES, AND HE SAID THERE IS NEED FOR A WORKING FORUM IN WHICH PROPOSALS SHOULD NOT BE LIMITED TO THE WHIMS OF MAJOR POWERS. DIEZ ALSO DECLARED THAT VERTICAL NUCLEAR PROLIFERATION IS AS MUCH TO BE FEARED AS HORIZONTAL PROLIFERATION, AND HE SAID THAT EFFORTS TO LIMIT BOTH TYPES OF

PROLIFERATION SHOULD NOT IMPEDE PEACEFUL USES OF NUCLEAR ENERGY. HE STRESSED THE IMPORTANCE OF ESTABLISHING AND EXTENDING NUCLEAR-FREE ZONES. HE ALSO AFFIRMED THAT .THERE IS A DEFINITE LINK BETWEEN DISARMAMENT AND DEVELOPMENT.

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5. SECRETARY OF STATE FOR FOREIGN AFFAIRS JEAN BAPTISTE NGOMO-OBIANG OF GABON DELIVERED A VERY GENERAL STATEMENT. HE DECLARED THAT THE UN REMAINS THE BEST FORUM FOR DISCUSSIONS, "EVEN IF ITS CAPACITY FOR SOLVING PROBLEMS VERY OFTEN REMAINS INADEQUATE." HE NOTED THAT EXPENDITURES FOR ARMS ARE OUT OF ALL PROPORTION TO EXPENDITURES FOR DEVELOPMENT, AND HE SAID THAT THE DISARMAMENT PROBLEM DETERMINES DEVELOPMENT IN AN ABSOLUTE SENSE. NGOMO-OBIANG SPOKE APPROVINGLY OF FRENCH PRESIDENT GISCARD'S ADDRESS TO THE SSOD. HE POINTED OUT THAT THERE IS NO POINT IN PILING UP RESOLUTIONS AND PRODUCING COMPILATIONS OF RESOLUTIONS IF THEY ARE NOT FOLLOWED UP. YOUNG

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